



CALIFORNIA VETERANS BOARD
GENERAL SESSION MEETING #673
December 3, 2004, 9:00 a.m.
Veterans Home of California-Yountville
Grant Hall
Yountville, CA 94599



GENERAL SESSION:

Members of the California Veterans Board:

Chairman George Sinopoli (Fresno)
Vice Chairman Leo Burke
Members Judy Gaze (San Diego)
Vernon Chong (Lincoln)
James Crump (Folsom)

CDVA:

Undersecretary Roger Brautigan
Deputy Secretary Robert Glazier
Deputy Secretary Bill Parente
Deputy Secretary Sheryl Schmidt
Deputy Secretary Joe Maguire
Administrative Services Chief John Hanretty
Veterans Services Chief Jack Kirwan

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Tom Montague led the invocation
Fred Walton led the Pledge of Allegiance
Administrator Marcella gave opening remarks and introduced staff.
Undersecretary Roger Brautigan gave opening remarks and introduced CDVA staff.
Chairman Sinopoli gave opening remarks and introduced Board Members.
Audience members introduced themselves.

OLD BUSINESS

Motion passed to approve minutes October 2004.

NEW BUSINESS

Deputy Secretary Sheryl Schmidt gave a presentation on the Metric Room.

REVIEW REVISED POLICY BOOK

Board Member Col James Crump elected to abstain to vote on any motions.

Board Member Dr. Vernon Chong: Policy A2 Budget matters.

Motion passed to adopt revision of Policy A2.

Board Member Dr. Vernon Chong: Policy A4, Appeals to the Board.

Motion passed to adopt changes to Policy A4.

Board Member Dr. Vernon Chong: Policy A5, Report on Pending Legislation and Legislation.

Motion passed to adopt revision Policy A5.

Board Member Dr. Vernon Chong: Policy A6, Board Meeting Agenda Items.

Motion passed to adopt revision Policy A6.

Board Member Dr. Vernon Chong: Policy A7, Contracts, Secretary Thomas Johnson requested to withhold discussion.

Board Member Dr. Vernon Chong: Policy A9 Committees, recommended by CDVA to eliminate “of any outside auditor and” from Policy A9.

Motion passed to adopt revision Policy A9.

Board Member Dr. Vernon Chong: Policy A10 adds a site Section 72 of the Military and Veterans Code no changes to the policy were made.

Board Member Dr. Vernon Chong: Policy A12, Special Counsel to the Board. The main purpose is as stated “This policy is to ensure that appeals heard by the California Veterans Board are conducted without the appearance or perception of bias or partiality. (California State Code and Regulation Title 12, Chapter 6, Section 700. Military and Veterans Code Section 86)

Motion passed to adopt revision of A12.

Board Member Dr. Vernon Chong: Policy B1, Interest Rates, recommended for deletion.

Motion passed to delete Policy B1

Board Member Dr. Vernon Chong: Propose to delete B9 attachments (1-4) and retain attachments (4-5).

Motion passed to delete attachments (1-4) of Policy B9.

Board Member Dr. Vernon Chong: Recommend deleting B3 because it is stated in the Military and Veterans Code and is not necessary.

Motion passed to delete Policy B3.

Board Member Dr. Vernon Chong: Recommend deletion of Policy B4. Loan Refinancing for Wounded and Disabled Veterans, which is already covered.

Motion passed to delete Policy B4.

Board Member Dr. Vernon Chong: Policy B7 Farm and Home Insurance Programs. Recommend deletion. The department of Veterans Affairs concur with this deletion.

Motion passed to delete Policy B7.

Dr. Vernon Chong: Policy C1 Financial Status recommends deletion. It is redundant because it is written in the Military Veterans Code.

Motion passed to delete Policy C1.

Board Member Dr. Vernon Chong: Policy C6 Post Funds. Revise renaming from Post Funds to Morale Welfare Fund.

Motion passed to make changes to Policy C6 Morale Welfare Fund and delete “Institute of Internal Auditors, and the US General Accounting Office”.

RECOGNITIONS PRESENTED BY CHAIRMAN SINOPOLI

Chairman Sinopoli: Presented a recognition certificate to:

Administrator Marcella McCormack

Chairman Sinopoli: Presented a plaque to David Grafft, Consultant Senate Veterans Committee:

Consultant of the California Senate Veterans Affairs Committee.

Geneva Peterson was not present Administrator accepted on her behalf.

APPEAL OF GERRY POCHEL

Vice Chairman Leo Burke: Review of Informal Appeal of Gerry Pochel, Tuition Fee Waiver.

Motion passed to deny appeal of Gerry Pochel.

REVIEW TENTATIVE 2005 BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

Vice Chairman Leo Burke: Cal Vet Board Locations for 2005 up for discussion.

Chairman Sinopoli: City of Ventura, Chula Vista, Clovis, Visalia, Palo Alto, Georgetown, Barstow, and Yountville.

Board Member Judy Gaze: February in Palo Alto.

Chairman Sinopoli: Secretary Thomas Johnson has recommended that we have a board meeting at the VA in Palo Alto.

Board Member Judy Gaze: West Los Angeles VA Medical Center.

CDVA DIVISION VETERANS HOMES CALIFORNIA

Deputy Secretary Bill Parente reported on the Veterans Homes.

SELECT COMMITTEE

Board Member Judy Gaze: Reported on Cal Vet Home loan program.

REPORT FROM BOARD MEMBERS ACTIVITIES OCTOBER 2004

Vice Chairman Leo Burke: Attended CPR hearing at Irvine October 19, 2004. Attended Policy and Procedure in Georgetown October 25, 2004. Attended American Legion Meeting with approximately 250 people in attendance November 12, 2004.

Board Member Judy Gaze: Month of November represented the Secretary for a Veteran of the Year event, John Smith from the Chula Vista home was recognized as Veteran of the Year in San Diego also he was the honored member in the Veterans Parade. Represented the Secretary in the Women's Veterans Luncheon held annually in San Diego.

Board Member Dr. Vernon Chong: Attended Policy and Procedure Committee Meeting in Georgetown October 25, 2004.

Board Member Sinopoli: Attended the largest Veterans Parade in the United States with participants over 7000 participants and the crowd of over 30,000 in Fresno. City of Fresno meeting to get land transferred to the State for a Veterans Home.

Board Member Judy Gaze: Veterans Services nothing to add.

Veterans Service Chief Jack Kirwan: Veterans Services Division Strategic Plan for the next five years is posted on the CDVA website also available on hardcopy.

Chairman Sinopoli: Nothing to report on Contract.

Vice Chairman Leo Burke: The Senate and the Assembly will be meeting December 6, 2004 to swear in the new members.

Legal Division Deputy Secretary Joe Maguire: Reported As of November 10 department of health services citations, 2 insurance cases, 19 cases of which CDVA was being sued, litigation on 8 legal

opinions, 9 personnel actions, 6 miscellaneous projects, 1 public records act request, 1 quiet title action, 2 motions from relief of stays, 6 unlawful detainers, total of 64 cases.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Home Member Pepper Matthews
Home Member Alex Carrillo
Former Board Member Larry Lattman
American Legion Officer Terry Tracy
Home Member Ruth Thompson
Home Member Arthur Emde
Home Member Neil Remnant:
Allied Counsel Chairman David Salopek: Presented a Picture to Chairman Sinopoli

FUTURE MEETING DATES AND LOCATIONS:

All meetings take place on Friday unless notified.

Next board meeting to be announced

Yearly schedule is posted on web site: www.cdva.ca.gov/board

CLOSED SESSION (if necessary or required)

The general reason or reasons for a closed session, and the specific statutory authority therefore, are (1) to consider the appointment or employment of a public employee under the authority of Section 11126(a) of the Government Code; and (2) to confer with or receive advice from the Board's legal counsel regarding pending litigation under the authority of Section 11126(E)(2)(A), (2)(B), and (3) of the Government Code.

- There being no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.
- These minutes are only a summary of the proceeding portions are reported here verbatim.
- These minutes are posted to the California Department of Veterans Affairs on-line website at www.cdva.ca.gov/board

ADJOURNED at 11:30 a.m.